



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/597,780	06/20/2000	Alessandro Cesare Callegari	YOR-9-2000-0010	6159

7590 06/14/2007
Paul D. Greeley, Esq.
Ohlandt, Greeley, Ruggiero & Perle, L.L.P.
One Landmark Square
10th Floor
Stamford, CT 06901-2682

EXAMINER

NGUYEN, HOAN C

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2871

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
-----------	---------------

06/14/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

74

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/597,780

Applicant(s)

CALLEGARI ET AL.

Examiner

HOAN C. NGUYEN

Art Unit

2871

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 March 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 9, 11-13, 37 and 40-44 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 9, 11-13, 37 and 40-44 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

Applicant's arguments with respect to new claims 41-43 based on the Response filed on 03/28/2007 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection. Therefore, this is Final action.

There is nowhere in specification discloses two different particles or ions (not single particle or ion) using in the first and second particle beam treatments to align the first and second domains. Therefore, the previous rejection of claims 9, 11-13, 37 and 40 in the last office action is repeated together with new claims, wherein the first and second particle beam treatments are both used the same single ion or particle.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 9, 11-13, 37 and 40-44 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Oh et al. (US6665036B2) in view of Kim et al. (US006111627A), Hiroshi (US5995186A), and Callegari et al. (US6061114A).

In regard to claims 9 and 37, Oh et al. teach (Fig. 3A-B) a multi-domain liquid crystal display comprising

- a bottom substrate 210 having a first surface;
- a transparent conductive layer (data electrodes 208 and common electrode 209, thin film transistors and other display circuitry in bottom substrate to form the in-plane switching mode) disposed over said first surface of said bottom substrate.
- a top substrate 211 having a second surface;
- a color filter layer (color filter 229) disposed over a surface of the top substrate;
- a transparent conductive layer 118 disposed over said color filter;
- a first alignment layer 223a over said first transparent conductive layer
- a second alignment layer 223b made of over said second surface; said second alignment layer being spaced adjacent to and facing said first alignment layer;
- a liquid crystal material 230 disposed in the space therebetween;

wherein

However, Oh et al. fail to disclose

- (a) a second transparent conductive layer disposed over the color filter;
- (b) a plurality of uniformly sized spacer 108 distributing within said space;
- (c) the alignment layers made of the dry deposited layers, which are made of material selected from the group consisting of hydrogenated diamond-like carbon, amorphous hydrogenated silicon, silicon carbide (SiC), silicon dioxide (SiO₂), glass, silicon nitride (Si₃N₄), alumina (Al₂O₃), cerium(IV) oxide (CeO₂), tin oxide (SnO₂), zinc titanate (ZnTiO₂) and a combination thereof;

(d) each of said first alignment layer and said second alignment layer made of the dry deposited layers is divided into a plurality of pixels each having a boundary and at least two domains; wherein each of said multi-domain, dry deposited layers is obtained by a mechanical mask; said dry deposited layers are exposed to at least a first particle (ion) beam treatment and a second particle (ion) beam treatment, where a first particle beam and a second particle beam use the same ion, which is selected from the group consisting argon, nitrogen, oxygen and a mixture thereof; and a direction of said first particle beam treatment with respect to said dry deposited layer is different than a direction of said second particle beam treatment with respect to said dry deposited layer as cited in claims 41-44.

Kim et al. teach (Fig.4) (a) a second transparent conductive layer disposed over the color filter, which is formed on the surface of upper substrate; this second transparent conductive layer used for preventing electrostatics forming on the upper substrate (col. 3 lines 1-3). Kim also discloses the alignment layers 44 and 28.

Hiroshi teaches (Fig. 5) (b) a plurality of uniformly sized spacer 108 distributing within said space for supporting the thickness of liquid crystal layer (col. 5 lines 25-29).

Callegari et al. teach

(c) the alignment layers made of the dry deposited layers, which are made of material selected from the group consisting of hydrogenated diamond-like carbon, amorphous hydrogenated silicon, silicon carbide (SiC), silicon dioxide (SiO₂), glass, silicon nitride (Si₃N₄), alumina (Al₂O₃), cerium(IV) oxide (CeO₂), tin oxide (SnO₂), zinc

Art Unit: 2871

titanate (ZnTiO_2) and a combination thereof for requiring fewer steps and less cost to manufacture (col. 3 lines 51-58);

(d) each of said first alignment layer and said second alignment layer made of the dry deposited layers is divided into a plurality of pixels each having a boundary and at least two domains; wherein each of said multi-domain, dry deposited layers is obtained by a mechanical mask 966; said dry deposited layers are exposed to at least a first particle (ion) beam and a second particle (ion) beam, where a first particle beam treatment and a second particle beam treatment use the same ion, which is selected from the group consisting argon, nitrogen, oxygen and a mixture thereof; and a direction of said first particle beam treatment with respect to said dry deposited layer is different than a direction of said second particle beam treatment with respect to said dry deposited layer with the features of claim 11 for resulting multidomain device so that attributing large view angle (col. 6 lines 19-31), wherein said first particle beam treatment aligns first and second ones of the domains of at least one of said pixels in a first direction, and wherein said second particle beam treatment aligns said first domain in a second direction.

(e) the particle beam treatment overwrites said first direction of said first domain with said second direction (col. 5 lines 2-26 and 58-63), wherein the first particle beam treatment aligns first and second ones of the domains of at least one of said pixels in a first direction, and second particle beam treatment aligns said first domain in a second direction [Fig. 9A-B shows the first particle beam treatment aligns the alignment layer in

Art Unit: 2871

one direction of surface 84 and the second particle beam treatment aligns said first domain in a second direction of surface 82].

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to further modify a multi-domain liquid crystal display as Oh et al. disclosed with (a) a second transparent conductive layer disposed over the color filter, which is formed on the surface of upper substrate; this second transparent conductive layer used for preventing electrostatics forming on the upper substrate (col. 3 lines 1-3) as taught by Kim et al.; (b) a plurality of uniformly sized spacer 108 distributing within said space for supporting the thickness of liquid crystal layer (col. 5 lines 25-29) as taught by Hiroshi; (c) the alignment layers made of the dry deposited layers, which are made of material selected from the group consisting of hydrogenated diamond-like carbon, amorphous hydrogenated silicon, silicon carbide (SiC), silicon dioxide (SiO₂), glass, silicon nitride (Si₃N₄), alumina (Al₂O₃), cerium(IV) oxide (CeO₂), tin oxide (SnO₂), zinc titanate (ZnTiO₂) and a combination thereof for requiring fewer steps and less cost to manufacture (col. 3 lines 51-58); (d) each of said first alignment layer and said second alignment layer made of the dry deposited layers is divided into a plurality of pixels each having a boundary and at least two domains; wherein each of said multi-domain, dry deposited layers is obtained by a mechanical mask 966; said dry deposited layers are exposed to at least a first particle (ion) beam and a second particle (ion) beam, where a first particle beam treatment and a second particle beam treatment use the same ion, which is selected from the group consisting argon, nitrogen, oxygen

Art Unit: 2871

and a mixture thereof; and a direction of said first particle beam treatment with respect to said dry deposited layer is different than a direction of said second particle treatment beam with the features of claim 11 and 41-44 for resulting multidomain device so that attributing large view angle (col. 6 lines 19-31) with (1) non-contact alignment, (2) low energy, (3) large area uniform and parallel beam, (4) atomic beam being used to align both surfaces (col. 3 lines 25-40).

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed on 11/20/2006 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant's ONLY arguments are follows:

Callegari discloses a single ion beam treatment and not first particle beam treatment and a second particle beam treatment as cited in claims 8 and 37.

Examiner's responses to Applicants' ONLY arguments are follows:

Callegari also discloses first particle beam treatment and second particle beam treatments (col. 5 lines 20-26 and 58-63).

However, application only discloses (Fig. 14a-b) a single ion beam 10 exposure to an alignment film to achieve a desired alignment in different directions. Thus the application discloses the first and second particle beam treatments are used a single ion beam in different directions (page 12 lines 7-14, page 12 line 28 to page 14 line 32,

Art Unit: 2871

page 21 lines 9-16). Therefore, the argument of the first and second particle beam treatments used by two different particles is irrelevant.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to HOAN C. NGUYEN whose telephone number is (571) 272-2296. The examiner can normally be reached on MONDAY-THURSDAY:8:00AM-4:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Nelms can be reached on (571) 272-1787. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

HOAN C. NGUYEN
Examiner
Art Unit 2871

chn


ANDREW SCHECHTER
PRIMARY EXAMINER